REMARKS

This application contains claims 10-23. Claims 10 and 17 are hereby amended. No new matter has been introduced. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Applicant is not conceding that amended claims 10 and 17 were not patentable prior to this amendment. Rather, claims 10 and 17 have been amended solely for the sake of expediting the prosecution of claims 10-23. Applicant reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of the amended claims, as well as new claims based on the original specification, in one or more continuing applications.

All the claims in this application were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) over Aoshima et al. (U.S. Patent 6,052,084, hereinafter Aoshima) in view of Kuroda et al. (U.S. Patent 4,586,050, hereinafter Kuroda). While disagreeing with the grounds of rejection, Applicant has amended independent claims 10 and 17 in order to sharpen the distinction of the present invention over the cited art.

Amended claim 10 recites a system for controlling an antenna that is mounted on a vehicle. The claim now recites that the motor orients the antenna with respect to the vehicle, that the angular velocity sensors are attached to the antenna, and that the outputs of the angular velocity sensors indicate the rotation of the antenna irrespective of the vehicle motion. The language added to claim 10 is supported in the specification, for example in paragraphs [0001], [0006], [0015], [0026] and [0033]. (The paragraph numbers refer to the published version of this application, US 2006/0273958).

The cited art neither teaches nor suggests the sort of mounting and measurement configuration that is recited in amended claim 10. Both Aoshima and Kuroda recite

sensors that are mounted on the platform that carries the antenna (the platform with respect to which the antenna is rotated), not on the antenna itself. For example, Fig. 1 of Aoshima partitions the tracking system into an external unit and an internal unit. Aoshima's antenna (10) is shown as part of the external unit, while the gyro sensor (26) is shown as part of the internal unit. See also column 2, lines 48-49, and column 3, lines 33-35, in Aoshima. In these passages, as well as in numerous other places, Aoshima states clearly that the gyro sensor senses the angular velocity of the vehicle, not of the antenna.

Kuroda refers to various kinds of sensors, including a gyro (12), a pitching sensor (26) and a rolling sensor (28). Kuroda states clearly that all of these sensors sense the motion of the platform, not the antenna. See, for example, column 2, lines 26-29, column 2, lines 65-66, column 3, lines 22-25, and column 4, lines 40-43. Controlling an antenna using sensors that are attached to the antenna is fundamentally different from controlling an antenna using sensors that are attached to the platform, since these configurations involve entirely different coordinate systems and error mechanisms.

In summary, Aoshima and Kuroda, alone or in combination, do not teach or suggest the use of angular velocity sensors that are attached to an antenna and measure the rotation of the antenna irrespective of vehicle motion, as recited in amended claim 10. Thus, amended claim 10 is patentable over the cited art.

Independent claim 17 recites a method for controlling an antenna, which operates on similar principles to the system of claim 10. Applicant has amended claim 17 in like manner to the amendment of claim

10. Claim 17 is therefore patentable over the cited art for the reasons explained above.

All the dependent claims in this application depend, directly or indirectly, from claim 10 or 17. In view of the patentability of independent claims 10 and 17, the dependent claims in this application are patentable over the cited art, as well.

Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the grounds of rejection that were raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are in order for allowance. Notice to this effect is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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